

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) An audiovisual terminal comprising:

entry means through which a viewer of an audiovisual program enters a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to, for the respective audiovisual program, each time the a~~ viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewing confirmation code to be entered being identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program, that is to be the viewing confirmation code entered being transmitted to a principal who authenticates viewing of the audiovisual program, the confirmation viewing code being presented by a program-providing principal at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program; and

transmitting means for transmitting to the principal, who authenticates viewing of the audiovisual program ~~for~~, the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code, for comparing the time information with the time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program.

Claim 30 (Cancelled).

31. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the entry means includes an input interface of a computer, and the time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code is obtained from a clock function of the computer.

32. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the audiovisual program is a broadcast program.

33. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the transmitting means transmits the viewing confirmation code after the audiovisual program is over.

34. (Previously Presented) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 33, wherein transmission by the transmitting means is made through a computer-readable medium.

35. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the transmitting means transmits the viewing confirmation code at any time during of the audiovisual program.

36. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the audiovisual program is provided through a reproducible medium.

37. (Original) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 36, wherein, if reproduction of the reproducible medium is interrupted temporarily, the transmitting means transmits a medium interruption code.

38. (Currently Amended) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, further comprising code presenting means for presenting the viewing confirmation code ~~specific to a respective~~ for the audiovisual program.

39. (Original) A viewing authentication system, wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time point of entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from the entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29;

means for comparing the entry time interval calculated by the means for calculating with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

40. (Original) A viewing authentication system comprising:

means for comparing an entry time point of a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, with an elapsed time from a base time, of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if an entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

41. (Original) A viewing authentication system comprising:

a program viewing result file for storing a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29;

program authentication pattern storage means for storing a program authentication pattern presented on the audiovisual terminal;

means for comparing the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with a program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code and stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the viewing confirmation code stored is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

42. (Previously Presented) A viewing authentication system wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time interval for entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for comparing an entry time interval transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

43. (Currently Amended) An audiovisual terminal comprising:

entry means through which a viewer of an audiovisual program enters a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to, for the respective~~ audiovisual program, each time ~~the a~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewing confirmation code to be entered being identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program, that is to be the viewing confirmation code entered being transmitted to a principal who authenticates viewing of the audiovisual program, the confirmation viewing code being presented by a program-providing principal at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program;

means for storing the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to presentation and entry of the viewing confirmation code, the time information being comparable to the times specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program; and

means for transmitting, after ending of the audiovisual program, from the means for storing, the viewing confirmation code and the time information ~~from the means for storing and~~ corresponding to the viewing confirmation code, to the principal.

44. (Currently Amended) The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, further comprising code presenting means for presenting the viewing confirmation code ~~specific to a respective~~ for the audiovisual program.

45. (Previously Presented) A viewing authentication system, wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time point of entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from an entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43;

means for comparing the entry time interval calculated by the means for calculating with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

46. (Original) The viewing authentication system as recited in claim 45, wherein the means for determining scores based on a comparison carried out by the means for comparing.

47. (Original) A viewing authentication system comprising:

means for comparing an entry time point of a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, with an elapsed time from a base time, of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if an entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

48. (Original) A viewing authentication system comprising:

a program viewing result file for storing a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43;

program authentication pattern storage means for storing a program authentication pattern presented on the audiovisual terminal;

means for comparing the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with a program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code and stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the viewing confirmation code stored is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

49. (Previously Presented) A viewing authentication system wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time interval for entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for comparing an entry time interval transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

50. (Currently Amended) A viewing authentication system comprising:

means for receiving transmission of a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for a presented audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being ~~entered~~ presented to a viewer at a terminal on a viewer side, the terminal being used for viewing the presented audiovisual program, the viewer entering into the terminal, each time ~~the a~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer by a program-providing principal, a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the presented audiovisual program; and

means for storing the viewing confirmation code received at the terminal and one of a time point corresponding to entry of the viewing confirmation code by the viewer and a time interval between ~~receipt~~ time points when the viewing confirmation code is received at the terminal and entry of a viewing confirmation code by the viewer, wherein the viewing confirmation code is presented with a timing specific to the presented audiovisual program for determining whether the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the presented audiovisual program, based on the viewing confirmation code stored and the one of ~~a~~ the time point and ~~a~~ the time interval that is stored.

51. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer, each time~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program;

receiving from the audiovisual terminal a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code entered; and

determining whether the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program based upon the viewing confirmation code received and the time information.

52. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 51.

53. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time ~~the~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program, and the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding thereto are stored in ~~an~~ the audiovisual terminal;
receiving the viewing confirmation code stored and the time information corresponding thereto transmitted from the audiovisual terminal after ending of the audiovisual program; and
determining whether the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program based upon the viewing confirmation code received and the time information.

54. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 53.

55. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time ~~the a~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from the entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time interval calculated with a presented interval of the viewing confirmation code; and

determining that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the interval of the viewing confirmation code, within a range.

56. (Original) A remote education method wherein,

audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and

viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 55.

57. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time

~~the~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program and the time has a specific relationship to a base time;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time point of the viewing confirmation codes transmitted with an elapsed time from ~~a~~ the base time of the viewing confirmation code presented; and

determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

58. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 57.

59. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time ~~the~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented and the time has a specific relationship to a base time to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

storing the viewing confirmation code transmitted in a program viewing result file;

storing a program authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code presented in program authentication pattern storage means;

comparing the authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with the program authentication pattern stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

60. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 59.

61. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time ~~the~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code calculated based on ~~the~~ an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time interval transmitted and a presented time interval of the viewing confirmation code presented; and

determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presented interval.

62. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
the audiovisual programs is one for education provided to learners; and
the viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 61.

63. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being presented at a time specific to the ~~respective~~ audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer,~~ each time ~~the~~ a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program;
receiving the confirmation code entered from the audiovisual terminal;
comparing the viewing confirmation code received and one of a receipt time point of the viewing confirmation code and a time interval of a receipt time, calculated based on the receipt time point of the viewing confirmation code, with a presented time interval of the viewing confirmation code presented; and
determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the receipt time point is in agreement with the presented time interval.

64. (Original) A remote education method wherein,
the audiovisual programs is one for education provided to learners; and
the viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 63.

65. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive, in the

audiovisual terminal, a presented viewing confirmation code-specific to for a respective audiovisual program, each time a viewing confirmation code is presented by a program-providing principal, and a viewing confirmation code entered by a viewer of the audiovisual program each time a viewing confirmation code is presented, for confirming viewing of the audiovisual program when the presented viewing confirmation code and the viewing confirmation code entered are identical, each time the viewing confirmation code is presented by a program-providing principal, in the audiovisual terminal for transmission to a viewing authentication principal, and to transmit from the audiovisual terminal the viewing confirmation code received and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code to the viewing authentication principal.

66. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive, in the audiovisual terminal, a presented viewing confirmation code-specific to for a respective audiovisual program, each time a viewing confirmation code is presented by a program-providing principal, and a viewing confirmation code entered by a viewer of the audiovisual program each time a viewing confirmation code is presented, for confirming viewing of the audiovisual program when the presented viewing confirmation code and the viewing confirmation code entered are identical, each time the viewing confirmation code is presented by a program-providing principal, in the audiovisual terminal for transmission from the audiovisual terminal to a viewing authentication principal, to store the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code entered, and to transmit the viewing confirmation code entered to the viewing authenticating principal.

67. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive, in the audiovisual terminal, a presented viewing confirmation code-specific to for a respective audiovisual program, each time a viewing confirmation code is presented by a program-providing principal, and a viewing confirmation code entered by a viewer of the audiovisual program each time a viewing confirmation code is presented, for confirming viewing of the audiovisual program when the presented viewing confirmation code and the viewing

~~confirmation code entered are identical, each time the viewing confirmation code is presented by a program providing principal, in the audiovisual terminal, for transmission from the audiovisual terminal to a viewing authentication principal, and to transmit the viewing confirmation code entered to the viewing authentication principal.~~

68. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program to a viewer;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to the viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer, each time the a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirming viewing of the audiovisual program;~~

receiving from the audiovisual terminal a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered; and

determining that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the viewing confirmation code received is not identical to but is in agreement with the viewing confirmation code presented, within a range.

69. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising:

providing an audiovisual program to a viewer;

presenting a viewing confirmation code ~~specific to~~ for the respective audiovisual program to the viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein ~~the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer, each time the a viewing confirmation code is presented to the viewer, the viewer enters into an audiovisual terminal a viewing confirmation code that is identical to the viewing confirmation code presented to confirm viewing of the audiovisual program, and the viewing confirmation code entered is stored in the audiovisual terminal;~~

receiving the viewing confirmation code stored from the audiovisual terminal after ending of the audiovisual program; and

determining that the viewer is viewing ~~a respective broadcast~~ the audiovisual program if the viewing confirmation code received is not identical to but is in agreement with the viewing confirmation code presented, within a range.